

Committee on Ways and Means

TPA CONFERENCE AGREEMENT INCLUDES NEW PROTECTIONS TO PRESERVE U.S. TRADE REMEDY LAWS

- Conference agreement includes new principal negotiating objectives and consultation procedures to preserve U.S. trade remedy laws
- Includes new principal negotiating objective to preserve the ability of the United States to enforce rigorously its trade laws, avoid agreements that lessen the effectiveness of unfair trade disciplines, and address and remedy market distortions that lead to dumping and subsidization
- Includes new principal negotiating objective to seek adherence by WTO dispute settlement panels and the Appellate Body to the appropriate standard of review in the relevant WTO agreement
- Requires new report setting forth the President's strategy to address Congressional concerns regarding whether WTO dispute settlement panels and the Appellate Body have added to obligations or diminished rights of the United States
- Requires the President to provide 180-day advance report on any proposals advanced in trade negotiations that could require amendments to trade remedy laws, and any Member may introduce a privileged nonbinding resolution which identifies whether the proposals referred to in the President's report are consistent with the trade remedy negotiating objectives
- Includes finding acknowledging that support for continued trade expansion requires that dispute settlement procedures under international trade agreements not add to or diminish the rights and obligations provided in such agreements, and raises Congressional concerns whether WTO dispute settlement panels and the Appellate Body are appropriately adhering to the standard of review
- Deletes provision included in House-passed TPA bill instructing President to ensure that U.S. exports are not subject to the abusive use of trade laws by other countries